

**Senate File 2346 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 2346

BY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 2144)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to flashing lights equipped on motor vehicles,  
2 and making penalties applicable.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.423, Code 2022, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 1A. A person shall not operate a motor  
4 vehicle equipped with flashing red and blue lights unless the  
5 vehicle is an authorized emergency vehicle. A violation of  
6 this subsection shall be considered a moving violation.

7 EXPLANATION

8 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
9 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

10 Under current law, Code section 321.423 prohibits flashing  
11 lights on or in a motor vehicle. There are a wide variety  
12 of exceptions to the prohibition based on the color of the  
13 flashing light and the type of vehicle.

14 This bill prohibits a person from operating a motor  
15 vehicle equipped with flashing red and blue lights unless  
16 the vehicle is an authorized emergency vehicle. Authorized  
17 emergency vehicles include vehicles of the fire department,  
18 police vehicles, ambulances, emergency vehicles owned by  
19 the government, and privately owned vehicles designated or  
20 authorized by the director of transportation under Code section  
21 321.451. By operation of law, a violation of the bill is  
22 punishable by a scheduled fine of \$45.

23 Under current law, a moving violation can be considered for  
24 purposes of administrative suspension of a driver's license  
25 or to establish habitual offender status. The department  
26 of transportation's rules define a moving violation as any  
27 violation of motor vehicle laws with some exceptions, including  
28 violations of equipment standards to be maintained for motor  
29 vehicles. The bill specifies that a violation of the bill's  
30 prohibition against flashing lights equipped on a motor vehicle  
31 is a moving violation.